

Bell companies operate an "essential facility", and should have to accommodate other ISP firms that wish to purchase access from them. This wholesale provisioning will stimulate competition and be of benefit to the consumers. To not do so would cripple the '96 Telecom Act. Chairman Powell: Please do not sell out to BIG BUSINESS, at the expense of competition and the small businesses of our country.

Further the BOC are not actively trying to improve the broad band service to their existing voice customers. Their mandate is stated that they have only to provide 9600 baud service. Their monopolistic power will only be increased if they are not leagllly forced to allow access to other ISPs.